

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE THE APPLICATION OF)
Kermarec, et al.) Examiner: Joseph E. Avellino
SERIAL NO.: 10/054,207) Group Art Unit: 2143
FILED: January 22, 2002) Customer Number: 23644
FOR: Methods of Establishing Virtual Circuits) Confirmation No. 4665
and of Providing a Virtual Private)
Network Service Through a Shared)
Network and Provider Edge Device)
for Such)

REPLY BRIEF

Honorable Director of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Brief is being filed in view of the supplemental Examiner's Answer of October 8, 2008 regarding this application.

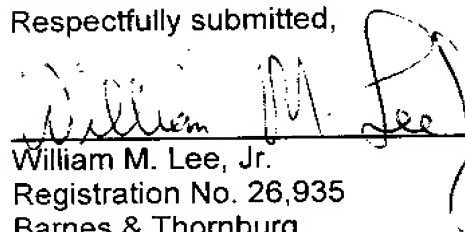
In the Examiner's Answer of October 8, 2008, the Examiner, on page 13, identifies a new ground of rejection, and presents two options. The applicant accepts the second option, that is, to maintain this appeal as it currently stands. The "new ground" of rejection is actually to correct a typographical error, and the original brief as filed in the appeal on July 23, 2008 quite adequately deals with the rejection of claim 20. Nothing further to burden the record is believed appropriate here.

In the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner also asserts that the applicant is arguing the references individually. That clearly is not the case, although the missing features of the references have been identified in relation to each reference, as is quite appropriate. The arguments set forth in Appellant's Brief of July 23, 2008 adequately deal with the references, and no further comments are believed appropriate.

It is again submitted that the Examiner is clearly in error, and should be reversed.

October 29, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William M. Lee, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large, looped "L" at the end.

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